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CYPRÆA LYNX DEFORMED BY DISEASE.

BY JOHN FORD.

A very remarkable series of shells comprising sixty or more specimens of diseased *Cypræa lynx* (figures 1, 2, 3) was recently secured by the writer while examining a barrel of mixed species of *Cypræa* that apparently came direct from Singapore, E. Indies. As much of the animal matter remained in all of the shells it seems quite probable that they were barreled, indiscriminately, as soon as obtained. The action of the disease appears to have been the same in all the specimens, the chief abnormal characters being a pallid and emaciated appearance of the outer margin of the right lip, and the outward bow-like curve of the same (fig. 1). In some instances from within

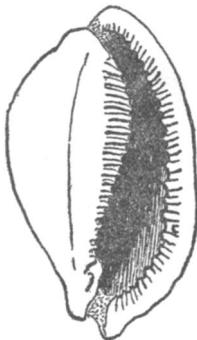


FIG. 1.

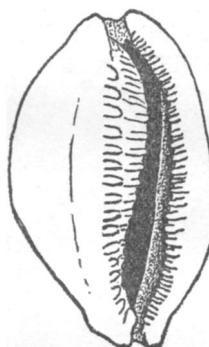


FIG. 2.

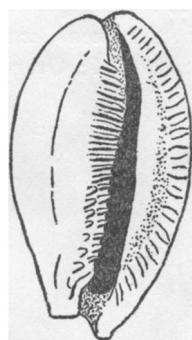


FIG. 3.

Abnormal *Cypræa lynx*.

the lip a thin, shelf-like partition, suggesting a former imperfect lip projected partly across the cavity. Several millimeters above this partition a second lip appears, with teeth that are fairly normal (fig. 2). In fig. 3, a shell is shown in which a flat, white, shelf-like lip replaces the convex and crenulated peristome of the normal shell.

Other irregular characters are present, but those specified are the most important. As a rule the left lip and dorsal parts of the shells exhibit normal conditions both of form and color. So far as can be learned no specimens similarly affected have been heretofore observed.

No evidence of the disease was apparent in the associated species.

Representative specimens have been presented to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia and to the Wagner Free Institute of Science. A fine suite may also be seen in the writer's collection.